

Saskatchewan's agriculture and agri-food industry is a major contributor to the economy of the province.

Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food (SAF) has a mandate to add value to agriculture by fostering a commercially viable, self-sufficient and sustainable Saskatchewan agriculture and food industry in partnership with industry.

This publication is produced by SAF to help those involved in the industry to identify the many agricultural programs and services available to producers and other industry stakeholders.

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For additional copies of this publication, or electronic access to Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food programs and services contact:

Publications Distribution Centre  
 Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
 3085 Albert Street Regina, SK S4S 0B1  
 Phone: 1-888-613-3975  
 Fax: 306-721-4626  
 Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Agriculture Development Fund (ADF)**

### **Purpose:**

To support the development and diversification of Saskatchewan's agriculture and food sector.

### **Background:**

Saskatchewan producers, researchers, companies, cooperatives, associations and food processors are eligible to apply for financial assistance to undertake agriculture and food processing research and development projects. Projects must support the development and diversification of Saskatchewan's agriculture and food sector and be consistent with the department's strategic directions. Policy and funding decisions are made by a board of directors representing Saskatchewan's agri-food sector.

Applications for project funding are accepted semi-annually by May 15 and November 15.

For value-added processing projects involving a maximum funding of \$15,000, applications are accepted under the Agri-Value Program on a monthly basis.

### **Impact:**

More than 4,600 applications have been received and over 2,210 have been approved for total funding of over \$155 million for a broad range of initiatives.

### **Contact:**

Agriculture Research Branch  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
Room 329, 3085 Albert Street  
Regina, S4S 0B1  
Phone: 306-787-6566  
Fax: 306-787-2654  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Agri-Food Equity Fund (AFEF)**

### **Purpose:**

To establish viable value-added agri-food enterprises through the provision of equity investments in Saskatchewan companies or co-operatives.

### **Background:**

The AFEF was introduced to make a strategic contribution to agricultural diversification. Equity capital is available to companies or co-operatives which:

- a) process primary agricultural products;
- b) market and distribute processed products; or
- c) supply products or inputs to processors or farmers.

### **Eligible business must:**

- i) be incorporated and have their main operations in Saskatchewan;
- ii) commence or expand operations within a 12-month period; and
- iii) have received less than 49 per cent of its total borrowing from a Saskatchewan government agency.

An equity investment by the AFEF cannot exceed \$1,000,000 or 49 per cent of the total equity of the business. The minimum investment by the fund is \$25,000.

### **Impact:**

The \$20-million fund is helping support viable value-added agri-food enterprises by providing equity capital to Saskatchewan-based companies and co-operatives.

### **Contact:**

Regina  
Room 202, 3085 Albert St.  
Regina, S4S 0B1  
Phone: 306-787-2357  
Fax: 306-787-2366

North Battleford  
103 - 1202 101st St.  
North Battleford, S9A 0Z8  
Phone: 306-446-7552  
Fax: 306-445-8076

Saskatoon  
109 - 111 Research Drive  
Saskatoon, S7N 3R2  
Phone: 306-933-7652  
Fax: 306-933-7668

Humboldt  
Box 660  
311 Main St.  
Humboldt, S0K 2A0  
Phone: 306-682-6717  
Fax: 306-682-5267

## **Cattle Marketing Deductions Fund**

### **Purpose**

The Cattle Marketing Deductions Fund is a mandatory check-off of \$2 per animal marketed in Saskatchewan. The fund supports various promotional and research activities that benefit the cattle industry in the province.

### **Background:**

The Cattle Marketing Deductions Fund was established in 1970 at the request of the industry. Over time the fund was increased from the initial check-off of \$1 per animal to the current \$2 per animal marketed. The \$2 check-off includes a national check-off of \$1 and a provincial check-off of \$1.

If producers wish, each January they may request a refund of the provincial portion of the contributions from the previous calendar year. The \$1 collected for the National Check-off is not refundable.

The fund is distributed on recommendations of the Cattle Marketing Deductions Act Advisory Committee.

### **Impact:**

Over the last 10 years the fund has provided more than \$10 million towards the promotion of Saskatchewan beef and beef products, research activities directed to the genetic and nutritional management of livestock, and assisted various Saskatchewan cattle associations to provide beef promotion activities.

### **Contact:**

Livestock and Veterinary Operations Branch  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
3085 Albert Street  
Regina, S4S 0B1  
Phone: 306-787-4264  
Fax: 306-787-1315  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Green Certificate Program**

### **Purpose**

To provide a structured on-farm training program for farm managers to follow when conducting staff training. A detailed curriculum for each farm enterprise type is available and is based on the training philosophy "learning by doing." For each skill, the performance objectives and key points are clearly stated.

To provide training for the next generation of farm managers by working with the high school system and having future farmers and farm employees learn and obtain credit for farm operating skills.

### **Background:**

As farms continue to increase in size and specialization, there is an increasing need for hired farm labour by the industry. The Green Certificate Program is an on-farm training program that features the farm manager as the instructor. The program not only results in better skilled farm employees, but also improves the human resource management skills of farm managers.

### **Impact:**

The development of strong human resource management skills by farm managers and the development of a skilled agricultural work force helps Saskatchewan's agriculture industry to remain efficient.

### **Contact:**

Green Certificate Program  
Economics and Farm Business Management  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
Room 125, 3085 Albert Street  
Regina, S4S 0B1  
Phone: 306-787-8079  
Fax: 306-787-0428  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Horned Cattle Fund**

### **Purpose:**

Deductions under the *Horned Cattle Purchases Act* are a "penalty" to encourage dehorning of livestock. The money collected is used for research and development in the cattle industry.

### **Background:**

The Horned Cattle Fund was established in 1940 as part of the *Horned Cattle Purchases Act* to encourage producers to dehorn cattle to reduce injuries and bruising during transportation and marketing.

The horned penalty is \$2.00 per animal.

The Fund is distributed on recommendations of the Horned Cattle Purchases Act Advisory Committee.

### **Impact:**

Over the past ten years, the Horned Cattle Fund has contributed more than \$2.4 million toward research activities and projects for the betterment of the livestock industry in the province.

### **Contact:**

Livestock and Veterinary Operations Branch  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
3085 Albert Street  
Regina, S4S 0B1  
Phone: 306-787-4264  
Fax: 306-787-1315  
Internet: <http://www.gov.sk.ca/agfood>



## **Industry Development**

### **Purpose:**

To provide specialized services for institutional, food regulatory policy and business development to Saskatchewan agricultural based industry.

### **Background:**

The strategic direction document, *Agriculture 2000*, called for renewed commitment to the development of strong market-driven agricultural industries. To accomplish this SAF established a branch to coordinate industry development activities.

### **Impact:**

Industry Development Branch works with industry groups and individuals to:

- improve the interpretation of marketing trends, channels and functions of marketing institutions;
- develop needed organizational and institutional structures;
- develop and implement production based quality assurance programs;
- encourage the adoption of acceptable federal standards for emerging sectors; and
- provide advisory services that address needs in marketing, business skills, financing and gap analysis

### **Contact:**

Industry Development Branch  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
Room 329, 3085 Albert Street  
Regina, S4S 0B1  
Phone: 306-787-8058  
Fax: 306-787-0271  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Livestock and Horticultural Facilities Incentive Program**

### **Purpose:**

To rebate provincial Education and Health Taxes paid on building materials used in livestock operations, greenhouses, or storage facilities for vegetable, raw fruit, medicinal plants, herbs and spices.

### **Background:**

All individuals, partnerships, co-operatives and corporations resident in Saskatchewan can apply for a rebate of the provincial Education and Health Taxes paid on facility construction completed during the calendar year. The program expires December 31, 2000.

Construction or renovations must be used exclusively in the livestock industry or for production of greenhouse crops or for vegetable, fruit, medicinal plants, herbs and spice storage. The program applies to building materials and stationary equipment directly related to the facilities.

Livestock include hogs, cattle, horses, sheep, goats, poultry and specialized livestock. Also eligible are bees and fur-bearing animals raised in captivity. Storage facilities include permanent facilities for vegetables, fruit, medicinal plants, herbs and spice grown for commercial purposes.

The rebate is subject to an annual \$100 deduction.

Deadline for applications is June 30 following the year of construction.

For applications, contact your local Rural Service centre : phone:  
306-787-5149.

### **Impact:**

The rebate assists in the diversification of the rural economy by creating a favourable climate for investment in the construction of livestock and horticulture facilities.

### **Contact:**

Livestock and Veterinary Operations Branch  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
3085 Albert Street  
Regina, S4S 0B1  
Phone: 306-787-5149  
Fax: 306-787-2366  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Livestock Loan Guarantee Program**

### **Purpose:**

To promote the livestock industry in Saskatchewan.

### **Background:**

Producers who establish an association of at least 20 members and form a co-operative or corporation can participate. Participating members may borrow funds for the purchase of breeder cattle and sheep or for feeder cattle, sheep or bison.

Association members must deposit a percentage (based on type of livestock being purchased) of the amount borrowed on their behalf into the association's assurance fund. The province guarantees the lender 25 per cent of the association's outstanding loan at the time of a loss. In the event of a shortfall, the assurance fund is used before the government guarantee is called on. The maximum loan for an association is \$4 million.

The livestock are held as security by the lender and all livestock must carry an association brand or permanent registered mark along with a unique ear tag. Bison must be identified by the federal health of animals tag and two additional tags that distinguish the bison purchased for each member from all other bison.

### **Impact:**

This program enables existing and beginning producers to expand and diversify their livestock operation by providing greater access to credit at favourable rates and with limited collateral requirements.

### **Contact:**

Livestock Loan Guarantee Program  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food

3065 Albert Street

Regina, S4S 0B1

Phone: 306-787-5275

Fax: 306-787-1315

or

3735 Thatcher Ave.

Saskatoon S7K 2H6

Phone: 309-933-5747

Fax: 306-933-5715

Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Saskatchewan Agri-Food Council**

### **Purpose:**

To supervise the activities of marketing and development agencies established under *The Agri-Food Act*.

### **Background:**

*The Agri-Food Act* provides a framework for the promotion, development and regulation of production and marketing of agri-food products. Producer-elected and operated agencies may be established under the authority of the Act, to administer marketing and development plans.

The Saskatchewan Agri-Food Council is a five-member board appointed by the provincial government. The council is responsible to the Minister of Agriculture and Food for the supervision of the operation of all agencies established under the Act. Specific activities of the Agri-Food Council include providing advice to the Minister, supervising votes on establishing marketing and development agencies, approving marketing orders of agencies established under the Act, hearing appeals and participating as a signatory to federal-provincial agricultural marketing agreements.

The Saskatchewan Agri-Food Council is currently responsible for nine Saskatchewan agencies.

### **Impact:**

Producer organizations are provided the infrastructure to take direct control of research, promotion and marketing of agricultural and food products.

### **Contact:**

Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
Products Development and Marketing Council  
Room 329, 3085 Albert St.  
Regina, S4S 0B1  
Phone: 306-787-5952  
Fax: 306-787-0271  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Saskatchewan Beef Development Fund (BDF)**

### **Purpose:**

To support the development and diversification of Saskatchewan's beef industry through funding of projects related to production research, technology transfer, and development and promotion of new products.

### **Background:**

The fund was established in 1994 utilizing premium savings due to the termination of the National Tripartite Stabilization Plan for Cattle and the marketing surplus from the Saskatchewan Beef Stabilization Plan.

The BDF is administered by the Saskatchewan Beef Development Fund Board which is composed of cattle producers appointed by the Minister of Agriculture and Food.

Applications for project funding can be made annually to the contact listed below before Jan. 15.

Saskatchewan is also a signatory to an agreement among the federal government and the three Western Canadian provinces as part of a national Beef Industry Development Fund (BIDF) established to promote the Canadian beef industry.

### **Impact:**

The BDF has also approved funding of 27 projects covering research in beef production, disease control, beef economics, new product development and promotion of animal welfare.

### **Contact:**

Agriculture Research Branch  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
Room 329, 3085 Albert Street  
Regina, S4S 0B1  
Phone: 306-787-6566  
Fax: 306-787-2654  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Agriculture Institute of Management in Saskatchewan (AIMS)**

### **Purpose:**

AIMS ensures the development and delivery of effective farm business management programming for Saskatchewan farm managers through the collaboration and cooperation of global farm leaders, educators, agri-business and governments. AIMS encourages and serves Saskatchewan farm families and management teams who desire to enhance their farm business management expertise, and promote their economic and social well-being.

### **Background:**

AIMS, a not-for-profit corporation, is the administrative agent for the Canadian Farm Business Management Program in Saskatchewan. The Canadian Farm Business Management Program is a federal/provincial agreement between Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food. Program topics include grain and livestock marketing, diversification, financial management, production management, environmental management, succession planning and information technology.

AIMS is a regular sponsor of the following programs:

- Training for farmers - classroom, workshop and on-line via the Internet
- Consultant Workshop Program
- Market Prospects
- Profiting from Agricultural Change, a provincial farm management conference
- Speaker/Conference Sponsorship Program
- Agri-business Management Development Program
- Innovative Farm Business Management programs.

For a detailed listing contact AIMS.

### **Impact:**

Farmers are provided with information, training and services to assist them in enhancing their farm business management capabilities. Farmers are better equipped to make management decisions required to ensure the success and viability of the farm operation.

### **Contact:**

Agriculture Institute of Management in Saskatchewan Inc. (AIMS)  
Room 125, 3085 Albert Street  
Regina, S4S 0B1  
Phone: 306-787-5997  
Fax: 306-787-5077  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca/aims>

## **Agriculture, Development & Diversification (ADD) Boards**

### **Purpose:**

To provide community leadership, at the local level, by identifying and implementing activities for the betterment of rural Saskatchewan.

### **Background:**

The ADD system is locally driven, featuring voluntary participation by rural municipalities (RMs). The ADD System is intended to be complimentary to, and an extension of Rural Municipalities. The mandate of ADD Boards is to provide a system to the RMs by which they can develop and deliver services and programs which will help local communities develop and diversify.

### **Impact:**

Extension Service staff work with local ADD Boards to assist them in their cooperative efforts in carrying out joint projects with a number of other local organizations. ADD Boards are instrumental in the delivery of such programs as the Fieldworker program.

### **Contact:**

Mr. Alex Mitchell  
Box 173  
Marsden, Saskatchewan  
S0M 1P0  
Phone: 306-387-6869  
Fax: 306-387-6766

## **The Century Family Farm Award**

### **Purpose:**

To honour Saskatchewan's pioneer farm and homesteading families.

### **Background:**

The Century Family Farm Award is a historical marker awarded by Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food to honour family farms which have been operated continuously by members of one family for 100 years or more.

Application forms are submitted to Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food along with verification from the municipality.

### **Impact:**

The award is a way of recognizing farm families and their role in the development of this province. More than 400 farm families have received the award since it was introduced in 1981.

### **Contact:**

Communications Branch

Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food

3085 Albert Street

Regina, S4S 0B1

Phone: 306-787-5160

Fax: 306-787-0216

Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Crop Development Services**

### **Purpose:**

To promote the development of the crop industry by providing specialist services in the areas of field crops, forages and rangeland, horticulture, apiculture, organic crops and northern agricultural products.

To assist the industry in identifying and capitalizing on opportunities for development and diversification of the crops sector.

### **Background:**

Four units provide specialist services:

*Field Crops Unit* - for the provincial cereal, oilseed, special crops, organic, forage and rangeland sectors.

*Horticulture Unit* - for the vegetable, potato, fruit, greenhouse, nursery trade and dried flower sectors.

*Apiculture Unit* - for the honey bee sector.

*Northern Agricultural Products Unit* - for the wild rice and special forest products sectors.

### **Impact:**

Specialists work with industry groups to identify development opportunities and with researchers to identify research needs. They also prepare up-to-date technical materials and provide specialist backup to Extension Service.

### **Contact:**

Crop Development Section  
Sustainable Production Branch  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
Room 125, 3085 Albert Street  
Regina, S4S 0B1  
Phone: 306-787-8034  
Fax: 306-787-0428  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>



## Crop Protection Laboratory Services

### Purpose:

To provide diagnostic services and control recommendations in the areas of plant health, insects, weed control and herbicide resistance screening.

### Background:

The Pest Management Unit laboratory services enhance the capability of producers and the public to deal with pest constraints to crop production. The laboratory is open year round and employs the most up-to-date technology and expertise to provide accurate diagnoses and current recommendations.

### Fee for services:

- |                                      |             |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| - insect and weed identification     | \$10        |
| - plant disease diagnosis, visual    | \$20        |
| - plant disease diagnosis, culturing | \$40        |
| - special diagnostic procedures      | \$20/hour   |
| - herbicide resistance testing       | \$30 - \$60 |

### Impact:

The Crop Protection Laboratory is the only broad spectrum, pest management diagnostic service available in Saskatchewan.

### Contact:

Crop Protection Laboratory  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
Room 125, 3085 Albert Street  
Regina, S4S 0B1  
Phone: 306-787-8130  
Fax: 306-787-8803  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Economics and Farm Business Management**

### **Purpose:**

To provide economic information to the agricultural community for existing and emerging enterprises, by undertaking economic studies of production and marketing systems.

To provide business management information to the agricultural community by managing a human resources program, a farm business management program and coordinating the farm business management activities within the Agricultural Institute of Management in Saskatchewan (AIMS) Inc.

### **Background:**

Production economics assists the department and the industry in evaluating agricultural production opportunities. Farm business management activities provides information to the agricultural industry focusing on human resources management, business arrangements and inter-generational agreements.

### **Impact:**

Evaluation of the economics of production opportunities and the development of appropriate management practices help ensure the competitiveness of the Saskatchewan agricultural industry.

### **Contact:**

Economics and Farm Business Management  
Sustainable Production Branch  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
Room 125, 3085 Albert Street  
Regina, S4S 0B1  
Phone: 306-787-8079  
Fax: 306-787-0428  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Extension Research Unit**

### **Purpose:**

To develop new partnerships that are of mutual advantage of to the University of Saskatchewan and Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food and to serve as a conduit for research and technical information from the University of Saskatchewan.

### **Background:**

The Extension Research Unit (ERU) was established in August 1993 as a joint venture between the College of Agriculture and the department. Specialists from the department work with the research community to achieve a more rapid transfer of scientific research information and new technologies to Saskatchewan producers. The delivery of this information occurs through the Extension Service field staff and the Rural Service Centres.

### **Impact:**

Working in partnership with the University and other research and development institutions on Campus, the ERU staff focus on transferring technology/research and providing specialist services in soils and crops, engineering, livestock nutrition, business development and farm management to the field. The ERU contributes to the development and innovation in the use of information technologies such as Internet and CD-Rom as a medium for transfer of technical information for the department with special focus on serving the information needs of Extension Service field staff. The ERU serves as a focal point for the department on campus.

### **Contact:**

Extension Research Unit  
Room 2D18  
Agriculture Building  
University of Saskatchewan  
Saskatoon, S7N 0W0  
Phone: (306) 933-5568  
Fax: (306) 933-5605  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Extension Service**

### **Purpose:**

To assist in the adaptation of cost-effective technology in producing products and to provide information on agriculture and food programs.

### **Background:**

The primary functions of Extension Service are:

- to provide field services for SAF
- to provide technical production information to meet client needs
- to provide a link between agricultural research and farm applications
- to assist industry and the department in responding to pressures on agricultural production

Extension Service Branch also includes the Extension Research Unit and the Farm Stress Unit which complement branch services to its clients. Refer to these listings for more information.

### **Services Provided:**

- crops - production and economic information for special crops, oilseeds, cereals, pulses and natural products
- livestock - production and economic information on specialized livestock, beef, pork, poultry, etc.
- Pests - insect, weed and disease identification and control measures
- farm management - cost of production, economics, business structures
- agriculture programs and services

### **Impact:**

Producers, agri-business, universities, industry and other agriculture and food related groups have access to and are assisted with information necessary to the extent that their needs and expectations are met.

### **Contact:**

See Rural Service Centre listings or

Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Farm Stress Unit**

### **Purpose:**

To help address problems and challenges facing rural people through crisis intervention, direct support, short-term counselling, information and referral for financial or personal/family difficulties.

### **Background:**

The toll-free **Farm Stress Line** has been in operation since February 10, 1992. The line is available Monday through Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. It is staffed by active farmers who have experience and training in counselling, farm financial issues, stress related problems, and family issues.

Using a computer generated directory of human services, the counsellors can link families to existing programs, services or support groups, either in or outside their community. The caller can obtain advice on a range of subjects related to stress, financial, health, personal and family issues.

The Farm Stress Unit staff are also available for presentations and workshops.

***Calls are confidential. There is no call display.***

### **Impact:**

The Farm Stress Unit is intended to be more than a simple referral agency. It is a source of information and support for those rural residents dealing with difficult life situations. Staff identify options, provide information and give referrals to assist rural people.

### **Contact:**

**FARM STRESS LINE 1-800-667-4442**

Manager, Farm Stress Unit,

Phone: 306-787-5196,

Fax: 306-787-9623

Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Feed Grain and Forage Listing Service**

### **Purpose:**

To inform buyers and sellers on the availability of feed grains, forage and other related agricultural services through a listing service.

### **Background:**

The Saskatchewan Feed Grain and Forage Listing Service was set up in 1983 to provide a means to identify potential feed grain and forage suppliers for buyers. The service has expanded to accept listings for pasture and grazing land, winter feeding facilities, contract feed grain and forage production and custom services. The Saskatchewan toll-free service averages about 2,600 listings annually.

Listings are compiled and published monthly or bi-monthly if conditions warrant. The listings are sent to all Rural Service Centres and rural municipal offices in Saskatchewan. Internet users are able to view the listing information or submit listings.

### **Impact:**

The listing service is primarily used by producers wishing to advise of feed or services they have available and by producers in need of feed or services.

### **Contact:**

Feed Grain and Forage Listing Service  
Statistics Branch  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
3085 Albert Street  
Regina, S4S 0B1

Phone: 1-800-667-7564 (SK toll-free)

306-787-5951 (Regina)

Fax: 306-787-0276

Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca/feedforage/>

## Library Services

### Purpose:

To locate, collect, organize and provide agricultural information to the staff of Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food, to farmers, to the agri-food industry and to the general public.

### Background:

The library fills requests for information from a collection of 20,000 books and 650 periodicals on agricultural production, diversification, economics and the food industry.

Access to information on the Internet, other library collections and commercial databases provides additional resources.

### Impact:

Anyone involved in the agriculture and food industry in Saskatchewan has access to dependable, specialized information not generally available in public libraries.

### Contact:

The Library  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
3085 Albert Street  
Regina, S4S 0B1  
Tel: 306-787-5151  
Fax: 306-787-0216  
E-mail: [library@agr.gov.sk.ca](mailto:library@agr.gov.sk.ca)  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Livestock Development**

### **Purpose:**

To provide specialist services to producers, producer groups, industry and Extension Service Branch to assist in the development of livestock opportunities in the provincial beef, sheep and specialized livestock sectors.

### **Background:**

The Livestock Development Section of the Sustainable Production Branch consists of the Beef and Sheep Development Unit, and the Specialized Livestock Development Unit.

### **Impact:**

Specialists identify opportunities and research needs to help ensure the competitiveness of the Saskatchewan livestock sector. They also prepare up-to-date technical information and provide specialist back-up to Extension Service Branch.

### **Contact:**

Livestock Development  
Sustainable Production Branch  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
Room 125, 3085 Albert Street  
Regina S4S 0B1  
Phone: 306-787-9719  
Fax: 306-787-0428  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>



## **Pork Advisory Services**

### **Purpose:**

To provide leadership and specialized services that contribute to an expanding pork industry that is globally competitive, environmentally sound and socially responsible.

Service areas include: Communications and Awareness Building, Information and Technology Transfer, Farm Business Management, Manure and Odour Management and Production Assistance. Clients include: existing pig producers, expanding and new producers, government departments and the general public.

### **Background:**

The Pork Central Branch has been established to implement the Saskatchewan Pork Industry Growth Strategy. Pork Central provides a focused, specialized approach to the provision of programs and services with a goal of increasing Saskatchewan's productive capacity to three million pigs.

### **Impact:**

Expansion of on-farm pig production and the value-adding processing of high quality meat products provides an opportunity for economic development and agricultural diversification. Saskatchewan enjoys several advantages for pig production. The basic inputs of high-quality, low-cost feed grains and the large, expansive land base makes Saskatchewan a low cost, globally competitive producer of pigs and pork products.

### **Contact:**

Pork Central  
Walter Scott Building  
3085 Albert Street  
Regina, Saskatchewan. S4S 0B1  
Telephone: 306-787-9112  
Fax: 306-787-9297  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Production Technology Services**

### **Purpose:**

To provide specialized services to Extension Services Branch, producer groups and industry in the areas of pest management (weed, insects, plant diseases, pest diagnostics) and soil management.

### **Background:**

Services are provided by two units:

*Pest Management Unit* - specialist services in the areas of weed, plant disease, insect and vertebrate pest control. The unit also regulates pesticide use and operates the Crop Protection Laboratory.

*Soil Management Unit* - specialist services in the areas of soil fertility, soil conservation and problem soils.

### **Impact:**

Specialists share their expertise at meetings, field tours and demonstrations in partnership with Extension Service Branch, industry and producer groups. Agronomic problem solving services and expertise are provided by specialists. Legislation essential for the protection of the agri-food industry (*The Noxious Weeds Act, The Pest Control Act and The Soil Drifting Control Act*) are administered by the two units. Staff administer legislation for the use, handling and distribution of pesticides within the province including licensing, monitoring and enforcement activities. The Crop Protection Laboratory provides crop diagnostic services for weeds, insects, plant diseases and herbicide resistance.

### **Contact:**

Production Technology Section  
Sustainable Production Branch  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
Room 125, 3085 Albert Street  
Regina S4S 0B1  
Phone: 306-787-4662  
Fax: 306-787-0428  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## Publication Distribution Services

### Purpose:

To distribute Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food publications and research reports to farmers and the agricultural industry.

### Background:

Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food produces 560 publications and 1,110 Saskatchewan Agriculture Development Fund (ADF) research reports. The publications are distributed free of charge. The publications are also available on the department's web site: [www.agr.gov.sk.ca](http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca).

Annually, the Publication Distribution Centre disburses 800,000 publications to Saskatchewan residents and organizations in Canada, the United States and many other countries throughout the world.

### Impact:

Farmers, agricultural organizations and the general public have easy access to information about the latest government programs, agricultural research and recommended farming practices.

### Contact:

Your nearest Rural Service Centre  
or:  
The Publication Distribution Centre  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
3085 Albert Street  
Regina, S4S 0B1  
Phone: 1-888-613-3975  
Fax: 306-7214626  
E-Mail: [pad@sk.sympatico.ca](mailto:pad@sk.sympatico.ca)  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## Saskatchewan 4-H Program

### Purpose:

To develop responsible, community-minded youth through education and skill development.

### Background:

The 4-H program has been in operation since 1917 with educational projects of an agricultural nature for rural youth. Their motto is "Learn to do by Doing."

The 4-H program is run by the Saskatchewan 4-H Council with third party funding from Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food.

### Impact:

In 1998/99 there were over 4,900 members and 1,375 volunteer leaders involved in 246 clubs. Members increased their knowledge and skills through participation in 28 different project areas. The beef and light horse projects are the most popular. Examples of other project areas include crafts, swine and food production. Graduates from the 4-H program are recognized for having a superior level of public speaking, communication and leadership skills.

### Contact:

Executive Director  
Saskatchewan 4-H Council  
3735 Thatcher Ave.  
Saskatoon, S7K 2H6  
Phone: 306-933-7727

## **Saskatchewan Management Plus Program**

### **Purpose:**

To provide producers with information on farming practices that are successful, based on actual producer data.

### **Background:**

Saskatchewan Management Plus (SMP) is a voluntary Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food (SAF) program designed to provide information on crop production technology based on actual producer data. Producers who participate in SMP may use this agronomic data to make informed management decisions. Crop production data is collected, summarized and returned to the producer with cumulative information of all participants in the area. (Individual confidentiality is strictly maintained.)

The information collected includes: crop and variety, land use (summerfallow, stubble), seeding date, rate and method, chemicals/fertilizers applied, average grade produced and crop yields.

### **Impact:**

The information provided is designed to give farmers relevant data that can be used to make their crop planning decisions. The use of local data results in unbiased field level research that helps producers make more informed farm management decisions. Local production information helps producers choose the crop and variety most suited to their area.

Manitoba provides a similar program to its producers for a number of years. Reports indicate the program has assisted in generating between \$8 and \$11 million in additional revenue for Manitoba producers.

### **Contact:**

Local Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation customer service offices or rural service centres.

Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Video Library Services**

### **Purpose:**

To provide producers with farm management and production videos that can be borrowed for viewing.

### **Background:**

Extension Service acquires videos on agriculture-related topics which are available to producers as educational and training tools. Videos are available through the nearest Rural Service Centre.

### **Impact:**

A wide variety of topics are available for producers to gain a better understanding of new agricultural technologies without incurring the time or the expense of attending courses or seminars.

### **Contact:**

Your nearest Rural Service Centre

## **Big Game Damage Compensation Program**

### **Purpose:**

To provide commercial farm operators with protection against financial loss resulting from crop damage by big game animals.

### **Background:**

The program is funded by the federal and provincial governments and administered by the Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC).

### **Program highlights:**

- Compensation payable at 85 per cent of the loss for eligible crops
- A \$200 deductible per crop for all big game claims
- Payments are based on the grade of the crop at the time of adjustment to reflect actual harvested quality
- Crop damage from white-tailed deer, mule deer, antelope, elk, bear and moose are considered under the Big Game Crop Damage Compensation Program
- Eligible crops under the Big Game Crop Damage Compensation Program include: all seeded commercial crops, stacked hay, silage bales and honey, market gardens, tree nurseries, sod farms and leaf cutter bees
- No costs or premiums are paid by the producer
- Producers do not have to be crop insurance contract holders

All Saskatchewan producers are eligible to file a claim. To qualify for compensation, producers must:

- Have made every effort to harvest crops to avoid winter damage by big game ; and
- Have taken steps to access prevention measures offered by SERM and all other reasonable preventative measures to control big game damage to crops and haystacks.

***Big game damage must be reported to the nearest SCIC Customer Service Office.***

### **Impact:**

The program provides compensation to farmers for crop loss from big game animals.

### **Contact:**

Local SCIC Customer Service Offices

## Canada-Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Program

### **Purpose:**

To provide producers with multi-peril insurance arising from uncontrollable natural causes on fall and spring-seeded crops as well as forages.

### **Background:**

The Saskatchewan crop insurance program offers base coverage of 50 per cent, individual average yield and buy-up coverage of 60, 70, and 80 per cent. The federal and provincial governments pay 80 per cent of the base coverage premiums and producers pay 20 per cent. Incremental buy-up coverage is shared 50 per cent by the producer and 50 per cent by the governments. Spot-loss hail premiums for all coverage levels are shared 50 per cent by producers and 50 per cent by government.

The premium discount feature recognizes low-risk customers who continuously participate in the program and is designed to reduce premiums for customers without a claim history or who have received only small indemnity payments. The discount is adjusted downward if increased losses are experienced. Premium surcharges are assessed for producers who have large and/or frequent claims. Premium discounts and surcharges do not apply to crops insurable under the New Crops Insurance Program.

The unseeded acreage feature of crop insurance provides a payment per acre if a producer is unable to plant their normally seeded acreage because of excessive spring moisture by June 20. This payment is subject to a deductible.

A producer's own yields are used to establish individual production guarantees. As well, crop insurance offers a quality guarantee. Production is adjusted if the grade of harvested production falls below the designated grade for a crop.

The livestock feed insurance program protects against production losses for producers who use forage in their operations. Insurance may be purchased at base and buy-up coverage levels for:

- Tame hay and covers established tame perennial hay grown for forage (includes alfalfa, alfalfa/grass and red clover)
- Green feed and covers established annual cereal crops grown for forage (includes wheat, barley, oats, triticale, fall rye, and spring rye)
- Dehydrated alfalfa and covers acres contracted to Saskatchewan dehy plant
- Sweetclover and covers acres grown for forage. Acres endorsed in the year they are seeded are covered for establishment. Acres that successfully establish are automatically insured for yield loss

Premiums are cost shared by governments and producers for base and buy-up coverage the same as in the crops portion of the program.

The forage establishment benefit provides establishment coverage on acres seeded to tame hay forage, including alfalfa, alfalfa/grass, grass, and red clover.

## Canada-Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Program Continued

Prices for livestock feed are based on Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food's Feed Grain and Forage Listing Service prices.

### New Crops Eligible for Insurance Coverage

Saskatchewan Crop Insurance offers several options tailoring crop insurance coverage to producer's needs. Under the New Crops Insurance Program chickpea (Kabuli and Desi type), alfalfa seed (pedigreed and common), coriander and caraway are insurable.

The following features apply to all new crops:

- Premium cost-sharing for base and buy-up coverage is the same as under the regular crop insurance program
- Coverage of 50, 60, or 70 per cent is available
- Production guarantees for all producers are determined using the provincial average yield
- Insurance coverage is for yield loss only and no indemnity will be paid for grade losses
- Spot-loss hail coverage up to 70 per cent may be selected

### Impact:

Crop Insurance offers affordable multi-peril risk insurance for fall or spring-seeded crops, as well as livestock feed and new crops.

### Contact:

Local Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC) Customer

#### Service Offices:

Assiniboia	1-888-935-0008	Prince Albert	1-888-935-0032
Balgonie	1-888-935-0001	Raymore	1-888-935-0016
Davidson	1-888-935-0020	Rosetown	1-888-935-0019
Estevan	1-888-935-0002	Saskatoon	1-888-935-0024
Humboldt	1-888-935-0026	Shaunavon	1-888-935-0010
Kindersley	1-888-935-0021	Swift Current	1-888-935-0007
Leader	1-888-935-0011	Tisdale	1-888-935-0025
Moose Jaw	1-888-935-0012	Turtleford	1-888-935-0030
Moosomin	1-888-935-0005	Weyburn	1-888-935-0003
North Battleford	1-888-935-0028	Yorkton	1-888-935-0013
Preeceville	1-888-935-0015	or	

#### Head Office

Box 3000 - 484 Prince William Drive

Melville, S0A 2P0

Phone: 1-888-935-0000 (toll-free) or 306-728-7200

Fax: 306-728-7268

E-mail: [customer.service@scic.gov.sk.ca](mailto:customer.service@scic.gov.sk.ca)

## **Net Income Stabilization Account (NISA)**

### **Purpose:**

NISA is an individualized whole farm program to assist agricultural producers to achieve improved long-term income stability.

### **Background:**

Anyone with sales of qualifying farm commodities who reports farm income for tax purposes is eligible. All agricultural commodities qualify except those under supply management (poultry and dairy). Producers can make annual deposits of up to three per cent of eligible net sales (ENS) into an individual account and receive a matching contribution from government.

The account is split into an after-tax component (participant deposits or Fund 1) and a pre-tax component (government deposits and interest or Fund 2). Both funds earn interest, but Fund 1 receives a three per cent interest bonus. Money in Fund 1 is held in the financial institution of the producer's choice, or the Toronto Dominion Bank by default. Money in Fund 2 is held with the federal government.

Participants can withdraw funds from their account if their net income from all sources drops below an established threshold or when their gross margin drops below their five-year average. Individual accounts cannot go into deficit. Money is first withdrawn from Fund 2 (taxable upon withdrawal) until it is depleted, then Fund 1 money (tax free) is withdrawn.

Producers can opt out at any time, funds left in the account are paid out in one lump sum or over a period of up to five years.

### **Impact:**

over 55,000 Saskatchewan producers hold NISA accounts totalling over \$1.1 billion.

### **Contact:**

Net Income Stabilization Administration

P.O. Box 6100

Winnipeg, R3C 3A4

Phone: 1-800-665-6472

or

Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food

Policy and Program Development

Rm 302, 3085 Albert Street

Regina, S4S 0B1

Phone: 306-787-5955



## **Waterfowl Crop Damage Compensation Program**

### **Purpose:**

To provide compensation for crops caused by migratory waterfowl.

### **Background:**

The program is funded by the federal and provincial governments and is administered by Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC).

### **Program Highlights include:**

- Compensation payable at 85 per cent of the loss for eligible crops
- A \$200 deductible per crop for all waterfowl claims
- Payments are made on a spot-loss basis so claims must be inspected before harvesting and leaving checkstrips is not acceptable
- Crop damage from ducks, geese and sandhill cranes are considered under the Waterfowl Crop Damage Compensation Program
- Eligible acres include all seeded commercial crops including crops not currently insured by Saskatchewan Crop Insurance
- No costs or premiums are paid by the producer
- Producers do not have to be crop insurance contract holders

***Waterfowl damage must be reported to the nearest SCIC customer service office before harvest.***

### **Impact:**

The program provides compensation to farmers for crop loss from waterfowl

### **Contact:**

The SCIC Customer Service office nearest you or

Saskatchewan Crop Insurance

Head Office

Box 3000 - 484 Prince William Drive

Melville, S0A 2P0

Phone: toll-free 1-888-935-000 or 306-728-7200

Fax: 306-728-7268

E-mail: [customer.service@scic.gov.sk.ca](mailto:customer.service@scic.gov.sk.ca)

## **Agricultural Fieldworker Policy**

### **Purpose:**

To promote a consistent policy for pest control (rodents, insects and weeds) in the province.

### **Background:**

Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food provides grants through the Agricultural Fieldworker Policy to Agriculture, Development and Diversification (ADD) Boards for the control of pests. ADD Boards coordinate pest control programs at the local level. In excess of 200 Pest Control officers (PCOs) are employed by ADD Boards and RMs to deliver the program.

### **Impact:**

The delivery of uniform province-wide control of pests through a partnership among the province, rural municipalities and private industry.

### **Contact:**

Extension Service

Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food

3065 Albert Street

Regina, S4S 0B1

Phone: 306-787-5041

Fax: 306-787-9623

Internet: <http://www.gov.sk.ca>

## **Agricultural Operations Review Board**

### **Purpose:**

To provide a mechanism for resolving complaints of nuisance between agricultural producers and their immediate neighbours and protect farmers from unwarranted nuisance lawsuits.

### **Background:**

*The Agricultural Operations Act* provides a legislative framework to handle nuisance complaints of farm nuisance. The Agricultural Operations Review Board is responsible for administering the nuisance provisions of the Act.

The board reviews complaints about odour, noise, dust, smoke and other disturbances which adversely affect the use and enjoyment of one's property and are the result of an agricultural operation. Anyone directly aggrieved by such a disturbance may apply to the board.

Complaints to the Board must be in writing, stating the nature of the complaint; name, address and location of the farm operation; the complainant's name and address; and be accompanied by an application fee. The application fee is \$100 + GST per application, which may be refunded if the dispute is resolved before the board makes a decision, or if the board determines the disturbance results from the operator not following normally accepted agricultural practices.

### **Impact:**

Without legislation, nuisance complaints about farm practices can only be dealt with by the courts. Factors such as standards, management practices, and innovative equipment and technology may not be given adequate consideration. The legislation ensures that normally accepted agricultural practices are considered when a complaint about agricultural nuisance is heard.

The Agricultural Operations Review Board provides an effective way to resolve complaints about nuisance arising from farm operations.

### **Contact:**

Agricultural Operations Review Board  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
3085 Albert Street  
Regina, S4S 0B1  
Phone: 306-787-4693  
Fax: 306-787-5180  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Dairy Laboratory Services**

### **Purpose:**

To provide leadership and services which promote expansion of the dairy industry to take advantage of local, national and international food processing and marketing opportunities.

### **Background:**

The Dairy Laboratory provides:

- milk quality testing for producers and processors, and milk analysis for the Milk Control Board;
- leadership, communication and coordination in identifying dairy industry issues and constraints;
- administration and enforcement of dairy regulations pursuant to the *Animal Products Act*; and
- regulatory, inspection and licensing services.

### **Impact:**

These services support the dairy industry and the public by ensuring quality milk production.

### **Contact:**

Provincial Dairy Specialist  
Dairy Diagnostic Laboratory  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
4840 Wascana Parkway  
Regina, S4S 0B1  
Phone: 306-787-6457  
Fax: 306-787-6439  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Disease Surveillance Unit**

### **Purpose:**

To provide disease surveillance and monitor the animal health status of the province as required for domestic and international trade.

### **Background:**

Animal disease surveillance is necessary to meet World Trade Organization (WTO) requirements. The WTO expects a nation to prove its animal health status to support its export certification or to defend those import standards to protect its indigenous populations. The Disease Surveillance Unit (DSU) gathers, analyses and disseminates information on animal health issues.

The Disease Surveillance Unit is also responsible for the administration, interpretation and application of:

- *The Animal Protection Act* and regulations;
- *The Diseases of Animals Act* and *The Control of Animal Disease* regulations; and
- *The Veterinary District Act* and regulations

### **Impact:**

The DSU enables the province to comply with domestic and international trade requirements for verifying the animal health status of Saskatchewan livestock and to monitor the animal health status of the province.

### **Contact:**

Disease Surveillance Unit  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
4840 Wascana Parkway  
Regina S4S 0B1  
Phone: 306-787-6069  
Fax: 306-787-6439  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Domestic Meat Inspection Program**

### **Purpose:**

To provide voluntary inspection of abattoirs and meat processing plants to help ensure food safety.

### **Background:**

Under the Domestic Meat Inspection Program abattoirs and meat processing plants can request inspection.

Domestic inspected plants can sell meat only in Saskatchewan.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency is contracted to provide the meat inspection service.

### **Impact:**

Currently there are 10 abattoirs and meat processing plants in the Domestic Meat Inspection Program. Five health districts now require any meat being sold within the health district to have been inspected.

### **Contact:**

Livestock and Veterinary Operations Branch  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and food  
3085 Albert Street  
Regina, S4S 0B1  
Phone: 306-787-5275  
Fax: 306-787-1315  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## Game Farm Inspection Program

### Purpose:

To support the development of the game farm industry through an on-farm inspection system to monitor and enforce regulations established for Saskatchewan licensed game farm operations.

### Background:

All game farm operators are licensed and regulated according to *The Domestic Game Farm Animal Regulations* under *The Animal Products Act*. The act and regulations provide a framework for the Saskatchewan game farm industry to develop while minimizing the potential for interaction with Crown wildlife.

### Impact:

Saskatchewan currently has over 500 licensed game farms with approximately 21,000 elk, 3,000 fallow deer, 3,000 white-tailed deer and 250 other deer being farmed. The number of licensed game farms continues to increase yearly.

### Contact:

Game Farm Inspector  
Livestock and Veterinary Operations Branch  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
3735 Thatcher Avenue  
Saskatoon, S7K 2H6  
Phone: 306-933-5378  
Fax: 306-933-5715  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## Intensive Livestock Operation Approval

### Purpose:

To develop environmentally sound intensive livestock operations.

### Background:

*The Agricultural Operations Act*, requires operators to obtain approval for waste storage and waste management plans for intensive livestock operations. Agricultural Operations personnel provide technical support to applicants for facility design, nuisance and pollution control, waste management and public process. Applications are referred to agencies inside and outside government to identify issues which require resolution.

### Impact:

Safe responsible development of the industry. Over 2,100 approvals for intensive hog, cattle and poultry operations have been issued.

### Contact:

Livestock and Veterinary Operations Branch  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
3085 Albert Street  
Regina, S4S 0B1  
Phone: 306-787-6581  
Fax: 306-787-5180  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Lands Appeal Board**

### **Purpose:**

To provide a process to have applications for the allocation of Crown agricultural land reviewed by an independent body.

### **Background:**

The Lands Appeal Board is an independent body that provides an opportunity for individuals who have been unsuccessful in obtaining a Crown land lease or have had an existing lease cancelled to be heard and have their applications reviewed. The Lands Appeal Board ensures that all applications are scored fairly and are consistent with the Agricultural Crown Land Lease Policy.

### **Impact:**

Appellants can have their case heard without having to access the courts. The process is easier to access and provides more timely decisions.

### **Contact:**

Lands Appeal Board Secretary  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
Room 202 - 3085 Albert Street  
Regina, S4S 0B1  
Phone: 306-787-4693  
Fax: 306-787-1315  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>



## **Livestock Brand Registration**

### **Purpose:**

To protect producer ownership rights through registration of acceptable livestock brands.

### **Background:**

Upon request from a producer, a livestock brand is registered according to the regulations established under *The Animal Identification Act*. When a brand is registered it is in effect for four years or for a lifetime. Brands can be renewed, transferred to other owners or cancelled. Brands which are not renewed are kept on an inactive file for five years before they are eligible for reissue.

The current cost for registering a brand for four years is \$25.00 or \$200 for a lifetime brand.

### **Impact:**

Proof of ownership of livestock is required prior to marketing animals. Applying a unique mark registered to one owner is the simplest form of permanently identifying animals.

There are approximately 19,000 registered brands in Saskatchewan. Almost 80 per cent of the livestock producers in Saskatchewan brand their animals.

### **Contact:**

Livestock and Veterinary Operations Branch  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
3085 Albert Street  
Regina, S4S 0B1  
Phone: 306-787-4682  
Fax: 306-787-1315  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Livestock Dealer Licensing**

### **Purpose:**

To protect producers from fraudulent sales losses by licensing all entities dealing in livestock sales and by ensuring all dealers are bonded.

### **Background:**

Livestock dealers are registered according to the Livestock Dealer Regulations established under *The Animal Products Act*.

Livestock dealers are bonded to ensure producers are paid for their animals after they are taken to a market. Bonding levels are based on a dealer's sales volume in the previous year and range from \$25,000 to \$250,000.

The cost of a Livestock Dealer's or an agent's license is \$100 per year.

### **Impact:**

Saskatchewan has approximately 600 licensed livestock dealers and agents who provide marketing services on over \$1 billion dollars of product.

### **Contact:**

Livestock and Veterinary Operations Branch  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
3085 Albert Street  
Regina, S4S 0B1  
Phone: 306-787-4682  
Fax: 306-787-1315  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Livestock Inspection Program**

### **Purpose**

To confirm rightful ownership of livestock offered for sale and of livestock transported in and out of the province.

### **Background**

Producers are required to complete manifests declaring their ownership prior to transportation or inspection.

Inspections are required prior to sale of all livestock in Saskatchewan.

Livestock inspection fees are \$1.50 per animal.

The Livestock Inspection Program also enforces regulations regarding:

- the humane transportation of livestock;
- licensing and bonding of livestock dealers; and
- brand registration and identification of stray animals.

### **Impact:**

Secure ownership is provided to producers by ensuring that animals are only marketed by the rightful owner. The credibility of the Livestock Inspection Program has strengthened security for lenders, livestock dealers and other institutions that provide funding for livestock purchases.

### **Contact:**

Livestock and Veterinary Operations Branch  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
3735 Thatcher Ave.  
Saskatoon, S7K 2H6  
Phone: 306-933-6191  
Fax: 306-933-5715  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Pesticide Applicator Licences**

### **Purpose:**

To ensure commercial pesticide application is conducted in a safe and responsible manner by knowledgeable applicators.

### **Background:**

The *Pest Control Products (Sask.) Act* and regulations require that any individual who uses or applies a pesticide must hold a valid pesticide applicator licence. An applicant for a pesticide applicator licence must pass a pesticide applicator course. Pesticide applicator courses are offered by the Agriculture Division of the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Arts and Technology. (1-800-667-7730)

### **Impact:**

There are currently 14 licence classes that reflect the types of pesticide application being conducted. With the exception of the aerial application class, all courses are available either as classroom or home-study option. Applicators are required to be recertified every five years. Exemptions to this requirement includes individuals who apply pesticides to land they own or rent.

### **Contact:**

Production Technology Section  
Sustainable Production Branch  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
Room 125, 3085 Albert Street  
Regina, S4S 0B1  
Phone: 306-787-4662  
Fax: 306-787-0428  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Pesticide Service Licences**

### **Purpose:**

To ensure that pesticide application businesses are acting in a responsible manner and employees are applying, handling, storing and transporting pesticides in a safe manner.

### **Background:**

The *Pest Control Products (Sask.) Act* and regulations require that any person carrying on a business involving the use or application of a pesticide must be a holder of a valid Pesticide Service Licence.

### **Impact:**

Every holder of a Pesticide Service Licence is responsible for the actions of his or her employees in the safe application, handling, storage and transportation of pesticides. Drift insurance, providing coverage of a least \$25,000 for each incident, is required for every holder of a Pesticide Service Licence offering aerial pesticide application. Exemptions to this licence requirement include any person who applies pesticides on land or in premises they own or rent, government agencies and municipalities.

### **Contact:**

Production Technology Section  
Sustainable Production Branch  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
Room 125, 3085 Albert Street  
Regina, S4S 0B1  
Phone: 306-787-4662  
Fax: 306-787-0428  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Pesticide Vendor Licences**

### **Purpose:**

To ensure that better informed sales personnel are available to provide advice to pesticide users at the time of purchase.

### **Background:**

The *Pest Control Products (Sask.) Act* and regulations require that any retail outlet that sells commercial or restricted pesticides must hold a valid pesticide vendor licence. An applicant for a Pesticide Vendor Licence must employ at least one certified dispenser at each outlet. A certified dispenser must pass an approved training course. Pesticide dispensers are required to be recertified every five years. Pesticide dispenser courses are offered by the Agriculture Division of the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Arts and Technology (SIAST). For course details, phone: 1-800-667-7730.

### **Impact:**

Any person or company that maintains more than one sales outlet must hold a separate licence for each outlet. This ensures that users can obtain accurate information about pesticides they are purchasing, leading to improved selection of pesticide products, reduced costs and enhanced public safety in the application of chemicals.

### **Contact:**

Production Technology Section  
Sustainable Production Branch  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
Room 125, 3085 Albert Street  
Regina, S4S 0B1  
Phone: 306-787-4662  
Fax: 306-787-0428  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Prairie Diagnostic Services**

### **Purpose:**

To safeguard and promote animal health through veterinary service and advice.

### **Background:**

Prairie Diagnostic Services (PDS) is a new, not-for-profit corporation, created by amalgamating the laboratory services of the Provincial Veterinary Laboratory and the Western College of Veterinary Medicine.

### **PDS services include:**

- bacteriology, clinical pathology, endocrinology, histopathology, immunology, necropsy (autopsy), parasitology, toxicology and virology;
- diagnosis and management of diseases in live animals through hematology and clinical chemistry tests;
- microscopic examination of tissue tumors;
- access to Western College of Veterinary Medicine Faculty expertise in all areas; and
- disease surveillance of herds.

### **Impact:**

PDS is able to apply the most modern technologies available to deliver quick, accurate results at a reasonable cost to producers. PDS has the facilities and services producers need to meet international trade requirements for food safety and quality.

### **Contact:**

Prairie Diagnostic Services

52 Campus Drive

Saskatoon S7N 5B4

Phone: 306-966-7316

Fax: 306-966-7316

or

4840 Wascana Parkway, Suite 1

Regina S4S 7J6

Phone: 306-787-6435

Fax 306-787-6439

Email: [william.bulmer@usask.ca](mailto:william.bulmer@usask.ca)

[www.usask.ca/pds](http://www.usask.ca/pds)

## **Crown Land Lease Program**

### **Purpose:**

To provide Crown agricultural land to eligible farmers and ranchers to supplement their units and enhance the viability of their operations.

### **Background:**

Lands Branch administers over eight million acres of provincial Crown land designated for agricultural use. Leases are allocated for 33 years with the opportunity to purchase or renew the lease, or transfer the lease to a family member. Leased land that becomes vacant through surrender or termination of an agreement is either sold by tender or leased to eligible producers.

### **Impact:**

Over 6 million acres are leased under 10,657 agreements for the purposes of grain farming, grazing or hay production.

### **Contact:**

District Lands Agrologist or  
Lands Branch  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
3085 Albert Street  
Regina, S4S 0B1  
Phone: 306-787-1362  
Fax: 306-787-5180  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>



## **Crown Land Sales Program**

### **Purpose:**

To provide eligible Crown agricultural land for sale to eligible purchasers to assist them to supplement their units and enhance the viability of their operations.

### **Background:**

Lands Branch administers over eight million acres of provincial Crown land designated for agricultural use. Lessees have the right to purchase their leased land provided the land is eligible for sale. Land not under lease and eligible for sale is tendered for sale to eligible buyers.

### **Impact:**

Tenders and cash sales to lessees of Crown agricultural land generate revenue for the province while assisting the purchasers enhance the viability of their operations.

### **Contact:**

District Lands Agrolgist or  
Lands Branch  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
3085 Albert Street  
Regina, S4S 0B1  
Phone: 306-787-1362  
Fax: 306-787-5180  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Petroleum and Gas Lease Program**

### **Purpose:**

To provide Crown land for use in the development of the province's oil and gas resources; to provide agricultural lessees with rental reductions; and to provide a fair return to the province.

### **Background:**

Resource development companies have the opportunity to obtain surface leases on Crown land for the purpose of developing provincial oil and natural gas reserves. Agricultural lessees affected by development receive a rental reduction in recognition of the reduced agricultural value of their lease. The lessee also receives compensation for any temporary damages.

### **Impact:**

In the 1998/99 fiscal year, \$5.8 million in revenue was generated from petroleum and gas leases.

### **Contact:**

District Lands Agrologist or  
Lands Branch  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
3085 Albert Street  
Regina, S4S 0B1  
Phone: 306-787-1362  
Fax: 306-787-5180  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Saskatchewan Pastures Program**

### **Purpose:**

To provide livestock business opportunities through a Saskatchewan Pastures Program while promoting public objectives of integrated land use and a sustainable land resource.

### **Background:**

The Saskatchewan Pastures Program (SPP) provides supplementary grazing and beef management services for Saskatchewan livestock producers to enhance livestock diversification while improving environmental and agricultural sustainability of marginal Crown lands.

Saskatchewan Pastures Branch administers 56 pastures.

### **Impact:**

The community pastures involve 803,000 acres of provincial Crown land. The pastures provide grazing for 125,000 head of livestock (cows with calves and sheep and lambs). On average, 2500 patrons utilize community pasture services each year.

Through the use of a revolving fund, pasture management has improved, increasing the grazing capability and revenue from marginal Crown lands.

### **Contact:**

Regional Managers, SPP  
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food  
3085 Albert Street  
Regina, S4S 0B1  
Phone: (306)787-5191  
Fax: (306)787-5180  
Internet: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

## **Education and Health Tax Agricultural Exemptions**

### **Purpose:**

To exempt producers from payment of provincial sales tax on certain farm machinery, tools and commodities including repairs when acquired for use directly in primary farming activity.

### **Background:**

Farmers are not required to pay E&H tax on most items purchased for use in primary agricultural production.

### **Primary farming activity does not include:**

- off-farm sorting, cleaning, grading and preparing crops for storage or market;
- any manufacturing, processing, refining or marketing operation where the agricultural commodity is changed from its natural primary state to a secondary state;
- the manufacturing, processing, contracting or refining portions of a combined farm and non-farm operations.

### **Impact:**

For 1999, it is projected that E&H tax exemptions will save producers approximately \$143 million.

### **Contact:**

Saskatchewan Finance

Revenue Division

2350 Albert Street

Regina, S4P 4A6

Phone: 1-800-667-6102 (toll free) or

Regina: 306-787-6645

## **Farm Fuel Program**

### **Purpose:**

To help reduce farm input costs through a refund of provincial tax on gasoline and an exemption on the purchase of coloured diesel fuel purchased by farmers for use in their farming operations.

### **Background:**

Since May 8, 1992, the fuel tax has been applied to all gasoline purchased from bulk fuel dealers. Producers can apply for an annual refund of the tax paid on their gasoline and propane purchases to a maximum of \$900.

In addition, since January 1, 1993, farm diesel fuel has been coloured so farmers may purchase their diesel fuel tax free.

### **Impact:**

The total estimated benefit to producers of the tax exemption on diesel and refund on gasoline purchased is approximately \$115 million for 1999.

### **Contact:**

Farm Fuel Program  
Saskatchewan Finance  
2350 Albert Street  
Regina, S4P 4A6  
Phone: 306-787-7587 or 1-800-667-7587 (toll-free)

## **Farm Land Security Board**

### **Purpose:**

To administer the provisions of *The Saskatchewan Farm Security Act* which provides: a mediation process for farmers in financial difficulty to negotiate debt settlement on mortgages; protection for Home Quarters; and preservation of Saskatchewan farm land.

### **Background:**

There is a long history of farm protection legislation in Saskatchewan, protection which has been important to farmers suffering financial difficulties.

The Farm Land Security Board has three specific responsibilities under the Act:

1. To accept notices from lenders wishing to start foreclosure action and prepare farm families for mediation services afforded them.
2. To administer the Home Quarter Protection legislation. This includes ruling on applications to eliminate the statutory protection against foreclosure on the home quarter.
3. To administer the legislation and regulations limiting non-resident and corporate ownership of farm land.

### **Impact:**

The board helps farm families deal with *Notices of Intent to Foreclose* by preparing the families for the mediation process. This process generally achieves arrangements that allow affected families to remain on the farm.

The board, through its duties under *Home Quarter Protection*, helps limit the risk that mortgage debt presents to a family's possession of their home quarter.

The board annually monitors approximately 12,000 land transactions and considers close to 400 applications for exemptions under the Act.

### **Contact:**

Farm Land Security Board  
Saskatchewan Justice  
Suite 207, 3988 Albert Street  
Regina, S4S 3R1  
Phone: 306-787-5047

## Farm Tenure Arbitration Board

### **Purpose:**

To arbitrate disputes with respect to the Farm Land Leaseback Program.

### **Background:**

The Farm Land Leaseback Program required a lender, or purchaser under a judicial sale to either offer the former farm land owner a six-year lease, or provide notice that a lease of the farm land will not be offered. If the offer was not acceptable, or if the lender had served a notice that a lease would not be offered, the farmer could apply to the Farm Tenure Arbitration Board pursuant to the provisions of *The Saskatchewan Farm Security Act*.

In situations where a notice not to offer a lease had been served, the board conducts a hearing to determine if the refusal to lease is justified based on the grounds of refusal set out in the Act.

The board may also be used to arbitrate disputes involving terms of the lease, rental rates, and problems of access where all the transferred land is not leased back by the farmer.

Farmers and lenders can apply to the board for a ruling. Lease denial applications must be made within 30 days of notification. Rent and terms applications must be made within 45 days from date of notification. Either party has the option of applying to the Court of Queen's Bench instead of the board.

### **Impact:**

The Farm Leaseback Program ceased taking new applications in June of 1997. However, the board is still available to handle disputes that may arise during the six-year leaseback period. The board has the authority to determine commercially reasonable rent, terms and conditions of the applicable leases and to address termination and certain leaseback eligibility issues on all leaseback arrangements established under the Farm Leaseback Program.

Decisions of the Farm Tenure Arbitration Board are binding on the parties in the same manner as orders of the Court of Queen's Bench. The board's decisions may only be appealed to the Court of Appeal on a question of law with leave of a judge of the Court of Appeal.

### **Contact:**

Farm Tenure Arbitration Board  
2nd Floor, Revenue Building  
1871 Smith St.  
Regina, S4P 3V7  
Phone: 1-800-667-4434 (toll free) or  
Regina: 306-787-2100  
Fax: 306-787-8999

## Mediation Services

### **Purpose:**

To provide trained mediators to assist parties in resolving disputes outside the court systems.

### **Background:**

Mediation Services has mediated farm foreclosure disputes since September 1988 and family law disputes since December 1990. Subsequent legislative amendments have allowed Mediation Services to provide mediation/facilitation in a number of different areas.

Farmer/lender mediation is conducted without charge when:

- A) a creditor files a Notice of Intention to Foreclose with the Farm Land Security Board as required under *The Saskatchewan Farm Security Act*;
- B) a creditor has made an application to the court to take possession of some farm equipment and the court adjourns the matter to allow for mediation.

General mediation and facilitation services are provided to interested parties on a fee-for-service basis.

### **Impact:**

The mediation process allows the parties to understand the problem(s), evaluate alternatives, make decisions and accept the consequences. Disputes can be settled without using the court system, giving the parties more control over their destiny and allowing them to reach agreement with a higher level of satisfaction.

### **Contact:**

Mediation Services  
Saskatchewan Justice  
215, 3988 Albert Street  
Regina, S4S 3R1  
Phone: 306-787-5747  
Fax: 306-787-0088



## **Rural Water Quality Advisory Program**

### **Purpose:**

To offer assistance to rural residents and small communities relying on a poor-quality private water supply or ineffective treatment system.

### **Background:**

For a nominal fee, a Sask Water technician will sample water for analysis by a certified laboratory and explain the results of the analysis and possible affects. The technician will also inspect the existing plumbing system and advise how to improve or protect the quality of water in an existing well, dugout or reservoir.

Technicians will also help select the best treatment equipment currently available to deal with your specific water quality problems.

This service is available to anyone relying on a private water supply, including: farmers, acreage owners, northern operators, residents of trailer courts, villages and hamlets. For more information, contact the nearest Sask Water office.

### **Impact:**

The program provides an expert analysis that can be used as a guideline for the development or modification of water supply and/or treatment systems. Good quality water is not only a basic requirement for health, but it also improves our standard of living.

### **Contact:**

Sask Water Rural Water Quality Section  
330-350 Third Ave.  
Saskatoon S7K 2H6  
Phone 306-933-7442

Sask Water, Water Resource Offices - Moose Jaw, North Battleford, Nipawin, Swift Current, Yorkton and Weyburn.

## Sask Water Irrigation and Agricultural Services

### Purpose:

To provide services aimed at the development and diversification of the agricultural economy through sustainable water-based projects, stemming primarily from a \$200 million irrigation infrastructure within the province.

### Background:

The corporation provides technical services to individual farmers and organizations seeking to develop small reservoirs, dugouts and wells. Sask Water also evaluates water supply needs and develops regional water supply systems on a utility basis to meet specific needs.

The Saskatchewan Potato Utility Development Company (SPUDCO) works with growers to help stimulate and support a self-sustaining potato production industry. Sask Water provides growers with access to agronomic and marketing information, as well as storage and transportation services on a fee-for-service basis. SPUDCO also partners with new growers on a crop share basis to reduce the management and financial risks commonly associated with business start-up.

Sask Water also provides agronomic support to the Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation, responsible for irrigation research, demonstration and general education in Saskatchewan. An Agro Environment Unit conducts soil investigations for irrigation development; provides manure management services aimed at intensive hog operations; and provides supplemental information to a client's yield monitor information for precision agriculture applications.

### Impact:

Individual farmers, organized groups and specific regions are able to access technical services to develop water supply and water management systems. Increasing access and control of the province's water resources allows farmers to increase productivity and profitability, as well as to diversify farming activities.

### Contact:

Sask Water  
Head Office  
111 Fairford St. East  
Moose Jaw, S6H 7X9  
Phone: 306-694-3947

Sask Water, Water Resource Management Offices - Weyburn, Swift Current, North Battleford, Yorkton, Nipawin, or the Irrigation and Agricultural Services office in Outlook.

## RURAL SERVICE CENTRES

Assiniboia	306-642-7225
Biggar	306-948-3577
Canora	306-563-5604
Camduff	306-482-3432
Davidson	306-567-2806
Estevan	306-637-4606
Hudson Bay	306-865-4430
Humboldt	306-682-6700
Indian Head	306-695-4250
Kelvington	306-327-4718
Kindersley	306-463-5441
Lloydminster	306-825-6470
Maple Creek	306-662-5444
Meadow Lake	306-236-7600
Moose Jaw	306-694-3615
Moosomin	306-435-4525
Nipawin	306-862-1787
North Battleford	306-446-7467
Outlook	306-867-5555
Prince Albert	306-953-2770
Regina	306-787-2344
Rosetown	306-882-5454
Saskatoon	306-933-5090
Shaunavon	306-297-5450
Swift Current	306-778-8284
Tisdale	306-873-8806
Unity	306-228-6400
Watrous	306-946-3230
Weyburn	306-848-2374
Wynyard	306-554-5444
Yorkton	306-786-1500

## NOTES